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Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 04440 091126Z

13
ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 IGA-02 AID-05 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 /044 W
---------- 072154
P 091048 ZJUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8502

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STATE PASS/OPIC/MIDDLETON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, EINV, SY
SUBJECT: OPIC AGREEMENT WITH SYRIA - MINISTER READY TO SING

REF: STATE 154110

1. SUMMARY. MIN ECON IMADI INFORMED AMBASSADOR JULY 8 SYRIA READY TO SIGN OPIC AGREEMENT. WE THEREFORE NEED TEXT OF SIDE LETTER PREVIOUSLY PROMISED AND CIRCULAR 175 AUTHORIZATION TO AMBASSADOR FOR EXCHANGE OF OFFICIAL LETTERS IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT.
THIS IS IMPORTANT STEP IN US/SYRIAN RELATIONS AND WE STRONGLY URGE WE MOVE FORWARD QUICKLY IN RESPONSE TO SYRIAN READINESS. END SUMMARY.

2. UPON MIN ECON IMADI'S RETURN FROM SEVERAL TRIPS ABROAD, INCLUDING SHORT VISIT TO WASHINGTON, IMADI INFORMED AMBASSADOR AND ECON OFF JULY 8 THAT HE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED BY SARG TO SIGN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS TO IMPLEMENT INVESTMENT INCENTIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN USG AND SARG, BASED ON EXACT TEXT SET FORTH STATE 127289 OF MAY 23 AND DISCUSSED BY MIDDLETON WITH IMADI DURING MIDDLETON'S LATE MAY VISIT. IMADI ALSO HAS ARABIC TEXT BASED ON THAT SUPPLIED BY OPIC. IMADI ALSO AGREED TO EXCHANGE OF SIDE LETTER PER REFTEL AND HOPES TO RECEIVE TEXT SOONEST. AMBASSADOR ALSO TURNED OVER TO IMADI OPIC STATUTE, TITLE IV OF CHAPTER 2 OF PART I, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961, AS AMENDED.

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3. CONTINUOUS EMBASSY /OPIC EFFORTS OVER PAST YEAR AND HELPFUL SUPPORT FOR SIGNATURE OF OPIC AGREEMENT GIVEN OVER PAST MONTHS DURING VISITS OF SECRETARY SIMON, OPIC EXEC V-P GREGG, OPIC DIRECTOR MIDDLETON AND MOST RECENTLY OMB DIRECTOR LYNN HAVE RESULTED IN SYRIAN READINESS TO SIGN OPIC AGREEMENT JUST AS SOON AS WE ARE READY. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS WE MOVE QUICKLY TO RESPOND TO IMADI AND SIGN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS.

4. ACTIONS REQUESTED:

A. PER REFTEL, OPIC IMMEDIATELY CABLE EMBASSY TEXT OF SIDE LETTER SO WE MAY PRESENT IT TO IMADI IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC. ASSUMING HE HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO SIDE LETTER TEXT, WE THENPLAN TO PREPARE BOTH DOCUMENTS IN FINAL ENGLISH AND ARABIC FORM, LEAVING DATE BLANK IN ANTICIPATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO AMBASSADOR TO SIGN LETTERS. WE CAN HAVE IMADI'S LETTERS IN RETURN DATED SAME DATE.

B. COMPLETE CIRCULAR 175 CLEARANCE AND AUTHORIZE AMBASAADOR TO SIGN LETTERS. REFTEL OF JUNE 22 NOTED SUCH ACTIONANTICIPATED SHORTLY AND WE ASSUME ACTION COMPLETED NOW OR WILL BE VERY SHORTLY.
WE HOPE DELAYS WILL NOT OCCUR AS IMADI IS READY TO SIGN NOW; IF DELAYS ENCOUNTERED, PLEASE PROVIDE EMBASSY PRIORITY STATUS REPORT.
MURPY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, LOAN AGREEMENTS, TREATY SIGNATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC04440
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760265-0184
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197607102/aaaaggwg.tel
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Reference: 76 STATE 154110
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Review Comment: n/a
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Subject: OPIC AGREEMENT WITH SYRIA - MINISTER READY TO SING
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